

File

Assembly

MINUTES - WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE - NEVADA STATE LEGISLATURE
54TH SESSION MARCH 24, 1967

Meeting called to order by Chairman Glaser 12:50 PM in the Ways and Means Room.

Present: Glaser, Mello, Bowler, Ashworth, Harris, Young, Howard, Jacobsen
Absent: Tyson

Also present: Bob Bruce, Howard Barrett, press

Present for discussion on SB 362 Gaming Commission: Senator Lamb
Wayne Pearson,
Ed Bowers, Allen Abner, and other members of the Gaming Control Board
Present for report on Nevada Tax Commission: Mr. Ernie Newton
Present for discussion on Criminal ID Bureau and Attorney General's budget:
Harvey Dickerson

SB 335: Authorizes publication, sale of handbooks containing selected portions
of Nevada Revised Statutes

Senator Lamb said this would be a self-supporting procedure for the publication and
sale of portions of the NRS which would be of particular interest to particular parties.
The Legislative Commission has the printing fund and has these published for sale;
then the money comes back into the general fund in the state treasury.

SB 216: Provides industrial insurance coverage of athletes at University of Nevada,
Nevada Southern University.

Mr. Ashworth stated that he understands the cost would be \$5.50 per pupil per month.
It did not matter what the limits were, the risks would be analyzed and the adjustments
made accordingly. Senator Lamb said the total cost would be somewhat less than \$5,000.
Mr. Bowler said the present coverage is fine for the highschool, but inadequate for
the University needs.

Senator Pozzi had asked to be heard on this, so SB 216 held.

SB 214: Places employees of Colorado River commission in state personnel system;
provides that salary of commission secretary be fixed by law.

Senator Lamb said we should and under this we would set the salary just as we do
with the others, such as the Clerk of the Supreme Court. Mr. Barrett also took this
position.

This would not include the Executive Director/Manager. He is under contract.

SB 214 held for Mrs. Tyson.

SB 362: Provides administrative costs of gaming laws shall be paid by direct
legislative appropriation.

Senator Lamb directed the committee's attention to the budget on page 319. He said
various requests had been made and gave some: Raises in the budget for
Postage and Freight to \$3900; Printing - Operational to \$8000; Equipment Rental to
\$11,600 and Special Reports to \$65,000 (this would be charged the applicant so would
get most of it back).

Senator Lamb contends that the Gaming Commission should be satisfied if we give them the monies they request in the budget and come out with a bill establishing the contingency fund of \$400,000. In order to draw from this, all they would have to do is to present a request to Mr. Barrett or the Governor with justification. They are now authorized to use up to 10% of the monies collected. SB 362 would create, instead, the contingency fund of \$400,000 through general fund appropriation.

Mr. Terrell explained that the reference to 10% on page 4, Section 2, paragraph 9, relates only to county table taxes. The Gaming Control can hold back 10% of the county table tax returns for administration. This should remain in. It is not related to the other reference of 10% which is being deleted.

Mr. Abner agreed that the amount of money was sufficient. That is not the problem. The Gaming Control has been given liberal working procedures - somewhat independent. Our history shows no abuse of this, but the present bill (SB 362) gets right into this basic philosophy. We are not now being nailed to specific line items and it is the nature of our business they we cannot be. We need the flexibility to make transfers from various categories when we feel it is necessary. For instance, in hiring for certain positions, we do not know what salary will be necessary to hire the man we want until we actually negotiate with him.

Mr. Bowers substantiated Mr. Abner's position. He said that while we are allowed to spend up to 10%, we have never spent in excess of 5%. He also agreed with Senator Lamb that the amount of money suggested is sufficient. However, his concern was also the flexibility in the use of the money. He felt that under direct appropriation, a line item system would be required.

Mr. Barrett commented in clarification that there would probably be no difference in this. Right now the Gaming is under the same system as the other agencies with respect to submitting a form with justification for the transfer of categories. However, with this contingency fund, if the \$400,000 were to be used up in the first year or not subsequently refunded, they would be operating strictly on the budget.

Members of the Gaming Control Board were under the impression that they had the initiative in this - that the requests they submit were more or less a formality, that they did not need such detailed justification as other agencies.

Senator Lamb again expressed his desire to try this proposed method, and if it did work a hardship, it could be repealed in a future Session.

In answer to question, this \$400,000 contingency fund would be over and above the total \$1,300,000+. However, this would be less than the present allowance of the 10%.

Mr. Pearson reiterated the argument of flexibility being taken away because the line item procedure is inherent in appropriations.

The parties interested in the above subject left the meeting at 1:30 PM.

Mr. Ernie Newton was present to give his report on the Tax Commission and finalize Mr. Jacobsen's and Mr. Ashworth's report on same. He said he had given his report to the Tax Commission and since it involved personalities was not prepared to explain it to the committee. He commented that the problems they have been having were not unique to the Tax Commission and labeled them "disease of bureaucracy".

Mr. Newton suggested that we bypass for the current Session the taxability of returnable containers. Then at the next Session we will ask for clarification of the problem by Statute.

As to the personnel changes, he has been asked by the Commission to give the man a chance at another position, where qualifications merit it, as much as possible.

Mr. Newton suggested that the figures shown on page 54 of the budget book for estimated salary savings be exactly doubled. So the net reduction he suggests would be \$43,940 for 1968; and \$45,460 for 1969.

He would also suggest that SB 56 - setting a salary for the Secretary of the Tax Commission - be carefully considered. He felt it should be comparable to the top administrator in other agencies such as Education, etc., though adjusting relative to Dr. degrees, etc. The increased salary could be paid within the reduced budget.

Mr. Jacobsen thanked Mr. Newton for the assistance that he and the other Department people gave them when investigating as a subcommittee.

Department of Conservation - Reports and recommendations - Roy Young

Mr. Young said they talked with Elmo DeRicco, who talked with the people under him. Mr. DeRicco was satisfied with his salary, but thought the State Engineer's should be raised.

Mr. Young said we couldn't do anything about this. There was some question as to the placement of the Land Use Planner and Recreational Planner under the Governor's Recommendation column. This was because after the budget was drawn and given to him, he worked the people around within the amount of the total budget. So it wasn't an agency request to start with and put, therefore, in the Governor's Recommend column. The Assistant State Engineer is Assistant to Director, and the Office of the Assistant Engineer was deleted.

Budget for Division of Water Resources held.

Page 329 Office of the Director

Mr. Young moved that this be approved.

Mr. Bowler seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

Page 332 State Committee on Federal Land Laws

Mr. Young moved that this be approved.

Mr. Bowler seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

Page 336 California-Nevada Interstate Compact Commission

Mr. Young moved that this be approved.

Mr. Bowler seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

Page 337-340 Division of Forestry

There was some discussion as to the proposed purchase of a new plane, a \$45,000 item on page 340. Comments on the increase in budget due to federal funds, county fire district funds, etc.

Mr. Young moved that this be approved.

Mr. Harris seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

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Page 11 - Attorney General

Mr. Dickerson said that he had asked for an additional investigator. He had no objection to an identification program, and as far as narcotics are concerned, at the present time there is no need for a program on this because there are only 1,056 narcotics users in the State of Nevada. He said an additional investigator can cooperate with the federal authorities, etc. to help on the narcotics, but he would rather see 3 or 4 people established with a central records system. It would be an alphabetical card index rather than based upon fingerprinting. It would be similar to that used in the clubs. He said if you set up a full time Investigation Bureau as proposed, you would run into a lot of money when it isn't necessary. He said he is inclined to go along with the criminal identification bureau and would ask for 3 or 4 men and equipment.

As to the question of the need and workload of his present Assistant, Mr. Dickerson replied that he has to have one investigator who works completely for me. He enumerated many of the cases Assistant Young has worked on. He handled 106 cases for the counties. He is of invaluable service, and has been a great help in the small counties. Mr. Dickerson expressed the need for an investigator to help him. He said this extra man could also help with identifications and the narcotics; and he would also allow his present assistant to do some work on this.

In answer to the direct question of the Assistant being put in his office to set up the criminal identification program 2 years ago, Mr. Dickerson said this is not true. He is not even an identifications man. He went on to say that 2 years ago, he said an ID Bureau was not needed, just another investigator for his office.

In answer to question posed by Mr. Harris, Mr. Dickerson said that an extra man for his office would cost approximately \$10,000.

Mr. Dickerson said he would comply with Mr. Jacobsen's request of a report of the work his present Assistant has been doing.

As to the necessity of an extra man if the criminal identifications bureau was set up, Mr. Dickerson said that if a small bureau was created, he would want it in his office. The reason for this is because the Attorney General is the chief legal officer for the State of Nevada. As to the Identifications man having police powers, Mr. Dickerson said he would hope he would also be an investigator.

Mr. Dickerson substantiated Mr. Ashworth's statements of March 23 as to the majority (80%) of the problems being in Clark And Washoe Counties which do have the extra facilities as ID, lab., etc.

In answer to the question of the Nevada Gaming Commission enlarging their present file for the proposed ID file, Mr. Dickerson said no, this would not be acceptable either to them or to us.

Mr. Bowler referred to the testimony at the hearing on this subject as to the duties of the proposed one chief and one secretary to come up with a plan and recommendations for a more comprehensive bureau. He asked Mr. Dickerson if the Attorney General's Office could come up with the same study for the next Session of the Legislature. Answer: yes.

There was discussion as to the placement of the Deputy Attorney Generals in various departments. Mr. Dickerson requested that instead of the legal analyst requested by the Commerce Department, that they put a Deputy Attorney General here, because of his broader qualifications and powers to write opinions, appear in court, etc.

The question of information supplied from California pertaining to identifications, etc. being cut off from Nevada was brought up. Mr. Dickerson said this was untrue. They get 100% cooperation - there is no cut off, and he doesn't think there ever will be. The Attorney General's office pays no fee for this information.

There was discussion as to the contract services on page 12. Mr. Dickerson said that the different departments, such as Fish and Game, Dairy Commission, etc. pay us for the use of one of our Deputy Attorney Generals. Then, we pay their salary.

In summary, Mr. Glaser said that narcotics problem is handled in the two larger counties by well-staffed and well-run bureaus. With the addition of one more investigator directed into the area of identifications, plus secretary and some equipment, this will be sufficient on the State level to pull material together and cooperate with California mutually. There is no need for a formal bureau to be set up. Mr. Dickerson said this was correct.

Mr. Dickerson then brought up the \$300 cut out of the budget of the Attorney General's Office for the Revised NRS. He said he has to have them. Mr. Glaser explained the committee's action on this and suggested perhaps he could obtain this money through some transfer of funds, which would be agreeable with Howard Barrett.

There was a recess at this point and the meeting resumed at 2:40 PM.

Budget finalization resumed:

Page 341 Forest Pest Control

Mr. Young moved that this be approved.
Mr. Mello seconded the motion.
Motion passed unanimously.

Page 342 Forest Fire Suppression

Mr. Young moved that this be approved.
Mr. Mello seconded the motion.
Motion passed unanimously.

Page 343 Humboldt River Investigation

Mr. Young moved that this be approved.
Mr. Mello seconded the motion.
Motion passed unanimously.

Page 345 Soil Conservation Committee

Mr. Young moved that this be approved.
Mr. Mello seconded the motion.
Motion passed unanimously.

Page 347 Oil and Gas Conservation Commission

This is an authorization rather than an appropriation.

Mr. Young moved that this be approved.
Mr. Mello seconded the motion.
Motion passed unanimously.

Page 349 Division of State Parks - Held

Pages 353 - 354 Division of Parks - Capital Improvement Program

Held for Senate bill on this and Mrs. Tyson's Resolution on Red Rock Canyon area.

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Page 355 Division of Parks - Marina Development

Mr. Young moved that this be approved.

Mr. Mello seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

Page 356 Advisory Mining Board

Mr. Young moved that this be approved.

Mr. Mello seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

Page 357 State Bureau of Mines - Mining Cooperative Fund

Mr. Young moved that this be approved.

Mr. Mello seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

Page 358 Fish and Game Commission

There was discussion on the appropriation for predatory animal item - \$40,000.

Mr. Barrett said there was a Senate bill out to put this under budget control, line item.

Mr. Young moved that the Governor's Recommendations be approved.

Mr. Jacobsen seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

Page 365 Department of Agriculture - Plant Industry

There was discussion on the plant industry receipts. Mr. Burge thinks \$2500 is too high. Mr. Barrett agreed that this was probably tight. It was based on 64-65 receipts of \$24,000 and last year only \$20,000 received.

Mr. Young moved that this be amended making a reduction in the Plant Industry Receipts to \$20,000 for each year of the biennium.

Mr. Howard seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

There was discussion on the equipment detail as to scales and the bearcat tractor for livestock scale. Mr. Barrett said he could work out the conflict by transfer of funds. It seems that there is a problem with the Highway Department qualifying for federal funds in that they must have their scales checked for accuracy by another department. This should not come out of the Department of Agriculture's funds.

This budget held for Mr. Barrett's report on working this out.

Page 370 Noxious Weed and Insect Pest Control Fund

Mr. Bowler moved that this be approved.

Mr. Mello seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

Page 373 Apiary Inspection

Mr. Young moved that this be approved.

Mr. Howard seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

Page 375 Agricultural Registration and Enforcement Fund

Mr. Bowler moved that this be approved.
Mr. Mello seconded the motion.
Motion passed unanimously.

Page 377 Animal Disease Laboratory

Mr. Young moved that this be approved.
Mr. Mello seconded the motion.
Motion passed unanimously.

Page 379 Livestock Disease Control Fund

The amount of excess over the request is for the building space rental; previously in Buildings and Grounds Budget.

Mr. Young moved that this be approved.
Mr. Mello seconded the motion.
Motion passed unanimously.

Page 381 Livestock Inspection Fund

Mr. Young moved that this be amended to provide a 6th category for the first year of Livestock Brand Inspection in cooperative program with Washoe County.
Mr. Bowler seconded the motion.
Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Bowler moved that the budget as amended be approved.
Mr. Mello seconded the motion.
Motion passed unanimously.

Page 384 Predatory Animal and Rodent Control Committee

There are the same number of positions, but there are salary increases.

Mr. Young moved that this be approved.
Mr. Mello seconded the motion.
Motion passed unanimously.

Page 386 Woolgrowers Predatory Animal Control Committee

Mr. Young moved that this be approved.
Mr. Mello seconded the motion.
Motion passed unanimously.

There was discussion on the expenditure of monies in this area and what was being accomplished. Discussion on the impossibility of getting information in this area.

Mr. Howard moved that the Committee request within the next week Mr. Humphrey give to the State Legislature a breakdown and justifications on all of these monies.
Mr. Jacobsen seconded the motion.
Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Howard moved that the Committee write a letter to the President of the Woolgrowers requesting them to come up with a better program - more efficient and more economical - for the next Session in 1969 because of the concern of the Legislature about the amount of money expended and the effectiveness of the program.
Mr. Ashworth seconded the motion.
Motion passed unanimously.

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Mr. Ashworth moved that the committee request the Legislative Commission to authorize an audit of high priority of the operations of programs involving general fund monies. Mr. Jacobsen seconded the motion.
Motion passed unanimously.

Page 387 Sheep Commission

Mr. Young moved that this be approved.
Mr. Mello seconded the motion.
Motion passed unanimously.

Page 389 Junior Livestock Show Board

Mr. Young moved that this be approved.
Mr. Mello seconded the motion.
Motion passed unanimously.

Page 390 Colorado River Commission - Held for Mrs. Tyson

Page 393 Fort Mohave Valley Development Fund - Held for Mrs. Tyson

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 PM.

